(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Government notified *vide* notification GSR No. 491 (E) dated 21st August 2008 an amendment to the existing labelling provisions for pre-packaged foods so as to mention the name and percentage of ingoing ingredients in the food by weight or volumes as the case may be, regulatory provisions for claims which is emphasized on the label, complete nutritional information per 100 grams of the product, instructions for use including reconstitution to ensure correct utilization of food, the amount and/or type of fatty acids, the country of origin on case of imported foods etc. In view of the representations received from the industry expressing their difficulties in implementation of certain provisions of the amendment rules, the implementation of the said provisions have been deferred until the 20th May, 2008.

(c) and (d) There are few studies to indicate a positive correlation between consumption of junk food and obesity. Lack of physical activity is also one of the factors that lead to obesity. It is also a fact that large numbers of people are undernourished in our country. Both over-nutrition and under-nutrition are prevalent in our country. Under-nutrition is a multi-faceted problem which occurs due to combination of several factors such as inadequate intake of food, low birth weight, poor infant feeding practices, neglect of health of adolescent girls and pregnant women, lack of nutritional awareness, poverty leading to low purchasing power, poor socio-economic status of women, female illiteracy, high rate of population growth and low access of population to health services, education, safe drinking water, environmental sanitation, etc. Over-nutrition on the other hand is due to changing lifestyles, increased consumptions of fast foods and foods which are high in fat and sugars and lack of physical activity.

Regional centres of Indian Nursing Council

1609. DR. KESHAVA RAO:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Nursing Council is planning to set up regional centres to monitor the functioning of the State centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry is considering Andhra Pradesh for setting up one of the regional centres; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) There is no proposal with the Indian Nursing Council to set up Regional centres to monitor the functioning of the State centres. However, under the XIth plan, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is proposing to help facilitate setting up of 24 Centres of Excellence in States which includes Andhra Pradesh also with the objective of offering courses in Ph.D. (Nursing) M.Sc. (Nursing), Continuing Education, Nurse Practitioner Course and Speciality Courses.